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Physics Department
The George Washington University
Washington 6, D.C.
May 29, 1963

Professor J. Lederberg
Stanford University
Stanford, California

Dear Professor Lederberg:

I am taking this opportunity to send you a reprint of my letter concerning the moon flight controversy as it appeared in The New York Times.

Thank you very kindly for your interest in this matter.

Yours truly,

Herb Jehle

Herbert Jehle

JEHLE

Xcopy sent 6/10/63

Dear Herbert--

I really am quite sympathetic to your aims, but I do not feel that your negative approach, particularly at this date, is very helpful. You may succeed in persuading Congress to pull back, but I doubt that you will find this has helped one iota in accomplishing your positive purposes. On the other hand, when positive programs for relieving poverty and disease have been formulated and adequately sold to the people and Congress, the question can then be put what has to be given first priority a/c costs. You will then find that space technology is not so irrelevant to other needs.

The probable alternative to Apollo is a strictly military space effort which may be hardly distinguishable in its immediate developmental content, but might be quite different in its overall tone, access of scientific information and long-range relationship to human objectives.

I also regret that more strictly scientific criteria have not been stressed in the space effort, but the whole program as it is evolving is a reasonable compromise of many interests, on the whole far better than I would have predicted.

Not for publication, but sincerely,

Jehle